



All Worship services can be found on Gloria Dei's Youtube Page (please subscribe).

Follow link on Gloria Dei's Facebook page or on www.gloriadeilc.org

Message to Gloria Dei Church Family:

I am an extravert. It's part of who I am. I need other people around to engage and spend time with.

Being together at church is one important aspect of my life that strengthens and sustains me, especially when I can experience worship with others.

So I have to admit that I find myself feeling 'out of sorts' at not being able to see each other in person and be in community with extended family, church family and friends (and not be able to worship together in person.) (I guess I'm trying to say that I miss you!!)

However, I wonder if you feel the same way, regardless of whether you are an extravert, an introvert or are somewhere in between.

Not being together. That's difficult. It can lead to a feeling of being alone, by oneself, of feeling lonely.

Some of us may find ourselves with the unusual experience of having a house full of immediate family members with lots of pent up energy, noise and activity. And not enough distance and space between us even to take a break from work and parent or grandparent responsibilities.

Some of us may find ourselves completely by ourselves, with only one of us in our home.

Ironically, both of these experiences can lead to a feeling of being alone.

One scripture passage that I keep coming back to in this challenge of feeling alone and apart from others, is from the Prophet Isaiah:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. Isaiah 43:1-3

God lays it all on the line here. He tells us, just as he told the people in Isaiah's time who were captives to other powers and alone, that we are not alone. Indeed, He tells us that we are His. That wherever we go, whatever we do, He is right here with us.

I take great comfort in these assurances from God that He is with me. In moments of aloneness or loneliness, **I am not alone, I am not by myself. He is here.**

Why does he promise to be with us, especially in our trials? Here is the one and only place God actually declares it in this particular way: *Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, (vs. 4)*

It is both God's presence and love that helps us endure our tough experiences.

I hope these words from Isaiah bring you the assurance that whether your residence contains one person or ten, There is always one more there with you: your loving God.

Pastor Tabitha

Please continue to support the ministry of Gloria Dei by mailing your financial offering to church, giving online at www.gloriadeilc.org/give. NEW! You can also give financial offerings by text. Look for the "**Give Plus**" app by **Vanco** in the Apple or google play store. Download the app, simply type in the zip code: 54956 and look for Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Neenah. It will guide you from there.



2020 Midweek Lent: Sensing the Gospel

All Special Lenten Worship services can be found on Gloria Dei's Facebook Page or by following the link to Youtube from www.gloriadeilc.org/events

+ April 1st Lent 5: The Sense of Smell.

+ April 10th Good Friday – Worshipping Christ who dies for us.

+ April 9—Maundy Thursday

+ April 12th—Easter Message

Blood Drive at Gloria Dei—Monday, March 30th from 11 am—6 p.m. Please donate blood if you can. Text: BLOODAPP to 90999 or call 1-800-red-cross or go online www.redcrossblood.org.

All In-Person services & activities at Gloria Dei are cancelled until further notice. (except Blood Drive) However GD ministry is Not Cancelled! Watch for worship & devotion opportunities, learning opportunities, service opportunities coming your way, by email and online.

Keep updated on News from the Synod and the ELCA during this time

To keep updated on news and updates from the East Central Synod of WI, synod Bishop Jerry Mansholt: www.ecsw.org or East Central Synod of WI facebook Page.

To keep updated on news and updates from the ELCA, our national church, and National Bishop Elizabeth Eaton: www.elca.org or Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Facebook Page.

Keep updated on our current local health situation during this time

WI Dept. of Health & Human Services: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19

Winnebago County Health Department: www.co.winnebago.wi.us/health/divisions-program-areas/communicable-disease/covid-19-coronavirus

Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov>

Ministry Needs and Opportunities thru Gloria Dei at this time

Please check out the list of needs and opportunities for ministry during this time. This is not an all-inclusive list and more opportunities may be added along the way.

If you need help in any area, and/or if you would like to help in any area, please respond.

- ++ Need or can provide prayers for others and for the whole community during this time.
- ++ Need help with grocery Shopping and/or delivering Groceries or other essential items.
- ++ Can provide help with grocery Shopping and/or delivering groceries or other essential items.
- ++ Need help with hired childcare/babysitting.
- ++ Can provide paid or unpaid childcare/babysitting.
- ++ Would like phone calls to check in and talk.
- ++ Can make phone calls to check in with others.
- ++ Need some extra help with food or meals.
- ++ Can donate food or meals for others.
- ++ Can donate non-perishable food items to GD's Little Library, which now includes food.
- ++ Can write out greeting cards or letters and send to others.
- ++ Can write thank you cards/notes/greeting cards to medical workers, grocery stores workers etc.
- ++ **Can donate Blood on March 30th Blood Drive at Gloria Dei (11 a.m. – 6 p.m.)**
- ++ Can burn dvd's of online recorded worship services to send or deliver to others who don't have access to online resources.

We are church together, even if we can't physically be together. We continue to be faithful in following God in these days ahead!

New Prayer Requests – Kate Rogge, Mike Crouch, Marcia Ortiz.

Adalia Ortiz and all others serving in the Armed Forces around the world.

Those who are health care workers, doctors and specialists, those who are caretakers, for all who are anxious or worried during this time . For those who experience depression and those who are feeling isolated during this times. For those who are ill with the coronavirus. For the Nation and the whole world, for guidance, help, direction and healing.